

# **Public Hunting, Parks, Trails and Soil Conservation Projects Bill House File 2322**

Last Action:

**House Natural  
Resources Committee**

February 6, 2006

## **Executive Summary Only**

**An Act establishing the public hunting, parks, and trails program, and making appropriations to the program and to the conservation practices revolving loan fund, and providing an effective date.**

**Fiscal Services Division  
Legislative Services Agency**

## **NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)**

Available on line at <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

**HOUSE FILE 2322  
PUBLIC HUNTING & CONSERVATION PROJECTS BILL**

**STATE SALES TAX ALLOCATION**

- The Bill allocates 2.0% of the State sales tax collected for two programs as follows:
  - 0.5% for deposit in the Conservation Practices Revolving Loan Fund.
  - 1.5% for a newly-created Public Hunting, Parks, and Trails Program Fund.

This revenue shift does not become effective until FY 2008.

**CONSERVATION PRACTICES  
REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

- The Conservation Practices Revolving Loan Fund loans money to Iowa landowners for the establishment of new permanent soil and water conservation practices. A landowner cannot receive a loan for a permanent soil and water conservation practice that is receiving funding from the Soil Conservation Cost Share Fund.

**PUBLIC HUNTING, PARKS, AND  
TRAILS PROGRAM FUND**

- The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will establish a Public Hunting, Parks, and Trails Program to provide land for public hunting, new infrastructure in public parks, and for new trail development. Funds will be allocated as follows:
  - 40.0% of the funds for public hunting projects with funding equally distributed in all of the counties.
  - 30.0% of the funds for public park projects located in State Parks or parks managed by the DNR. Funds will be used to improve existing facilities or for new facilities meeting specific criteria.
  - 30.0% of the funds for public recreational trail development throughout the State.

**PUBLIC HUNTING, PARKS, AND  
TRAILS PROGRAM BOARD**

- The DNR Director will appoint six members for the Public Hunting, Parks, and Trails Program Advisory Board. Three members will be selected from agricultural groups and three members from conservation, habitat, and wildlife groups. The Bill specifies no more than three members can belong to the same political party. The Board will meet annually in July to review and select projects for funding and submit an annual summary report to the General Assembly by December 15.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

- The FY 2007 estimate for net State sales tax is \$1.900 billion. Using this estimate, approximately \$38.0 million will be allocated for the programs beginning in FY 2008 as follows:
  - \$9.5 million to the Conservation Practices Revolving Loan Fund.
  - \$28.5 million to the Public Hunting, Parks, and Trails Program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

- The Bill takes effect on July 1, 2007.